

#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION

**COMMISSIONERS** GARY PIERCE - Chairman PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY **BOB STUMP BRENDA BURNS** 

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Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

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**DOCKETED BY** n2

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. L- 00000GG-08-0407-00139 OF ARIZONA SOLAR ONE, LLC IN **CONFORMANCE WITH THE** REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES §§ 40-360.03 AND 40-360.06, et seq. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATABILITY AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF THE 10 SOLANA GENERATING STATION, LOCATED IN SECTION 9, TOWNSHIP 6

**SOUTH, RANGE 7 WEST, MARICOPA** 

COUNTY ARIZONA.

**CASE NO. 139** 

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF ARIZONA SOLAR ONE, LLC IN **CONFORMANCE WITH THE** 14 REQUIREMENTS OF ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES §§ 40-360, et seq., FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AUTHORIZING THE 16 CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOLANA GEN-TIE, WHICH ORIGINATES AT THE 17 SOLANA GENERATING STATION,

LOCATED IN MARICOPA COUNTY, AND TERMINATES AT THE PANDA 230 kV SUBSTATION, LOCATED IN GILA BEND, DOCKET NO. L- 00000GG-08-0408-00140

**CASE NO. 140** 

**ORDER MODIFYING DECISION NO. 70639** 

DECISION NO. 72680

Decision No.

#### BY THE COMMISSION:

ARIZONA.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 40-252, on September 29, 2011, Arizona Solar One, LLC ("Solar One" or "Company") filed a request with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") for a revision to its Certificate of Environmental Compatibility ("CEC") authorizing the construction of a single circuit 230 kV transmission line using either single or double circuit towers ("Gen-Tie line"). The Company is seeking two amendments to the order. The first amendment will allow the Company to place a second set of conductors on the double circuit The second amendment will allow Solar One to use four H-frame transmission structures rather than monopole towers in one location along the CEC route.

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#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Decision No. 70639, entered on December 11, 2008, granted Solar One's application for a CEC to construct a 230 kV gen-tie transmission line running from the Solana Generating Station site to Arizona Public Service Company's ("APS") Panda Substation. The CEC also authorized an alternative route for the Gen-Tie line that would interconnect with the APS Gila Bend Substation.
- 2. Decision No. 70639 authorized the installation of double circuit towers but only permitted the use of a single circuit. In the course of engineering the Gen-Tie line, Solar One identified additional efficiencies that could be obtained through the use of a second set of conductors, which will still be operated in a single circuit in conjunction with the existing set of conductors. The efficiencies will include reduced line loss in the transmission of electricity generated at the Solana Generating Station. The second set of conductors will also improve reliability insofar as the loss of a single set of conductors will no longer prevent the continued operation of the transmission line.
- 3. Additionally, during the engineering of the Gen-Tie line, Solar One identified a location where the Gen-Tie line would encounter the existing APS 230 kV Panda Gila Bend transmission line. Crossing the Gen-Tie line beneath APS's transmission line would require the use of two H-Frame towers of approximately 63 to 66 feet in height rather than monopole towers. Likewise, the presence of wastewater treatment ponds adjacent to the line crossing location will necessitate the use of another two H-Frame towers of approximately 116 feet in height in order to span the ponds.
- 4. Solar One did not include samples of H-Frame towers in either the application for CEC or among its exhibits presented during the hearing before the Line Siting Committee. Construction of the Gen-Tie line will require approximately 126 additional transmission towers. The Company will utilize monopole structures for these remaining 126 transmission towers.
- 5. On September 29, 2011, the Company filed an Application to Amend Arizona Corporation Commission Decision No. 70639. In the Application, Solar One requested modification of Decision No. 70639 to permit use of a second set of conductors and to use four

H-Frame towers. A description of the H-Frame towers was included in the Application and is attached as Exhibit A.

- 6. On October 17, 2011, the Company filed in the docket letters of support for the requested modifications. The letters were provided by the other two parties to the docket, Paloma Irrigation & Drainage District and the Sierra Club, Grand Canyon Chapter. An additional letter was provided by the Director of Planning and Economic Development for the Town of Gila Bend.
- 7. It is reasonable and appropriate to amend the CEC to permit Solar One to operate the Gen-Tie line using a second set of conductors. Additionally, it is reasonable and appropriate to amend the CEC to permit the Company to use four H-Frame towers to cross under the existing APS 230 kV Panda Gila Bend transmission line and to span the adjacent wastewater treatment ponds.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The Commission has jurisdiction over Arizona Solar One, LLC and the subject matter contained herein pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 40-252 and -360, et seq.
  - 2. Notice of the proceeding has been given in the manner prescribed by law.
- 3. The Commission, having reviewed and considered Arizona Solar One, LLC's application to amend Decision No. 70639, concludes that it is in the public interest to amend the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility as set forth in Finding of Fact No. 7 and to modify Decision No. 70639, accordingly.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that upon due consideration of this matter and notice and opportunity to be heard, the Commission hereby modifies Decision No. 70639 to authorize the use of four H-Frame transmission structures, described in the attached Exhibit A, for the purpose of crossing beneath the Arizona Public Service Company's existing 230 kV Panda - Gila Bend transmission line and to span the adjacent wastewater treatment ponds.

Decision No. 72680

Decision No.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the CEC issued by the Line Siting Committee and granted by the Commission on December 11, 2008 by Decision No. 70639 is modified at page 3, lines 1-3 to read as follows: The Project as approved consists of approximately 20 miles of 230 kV transmission line and required substation and switchyard facilities and modifications. The single-circuit may be constructed on either single-circuit or double-circuit towers and may utilize two sets of conductors operated as a singlecircuit on double-circuit towers. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. 

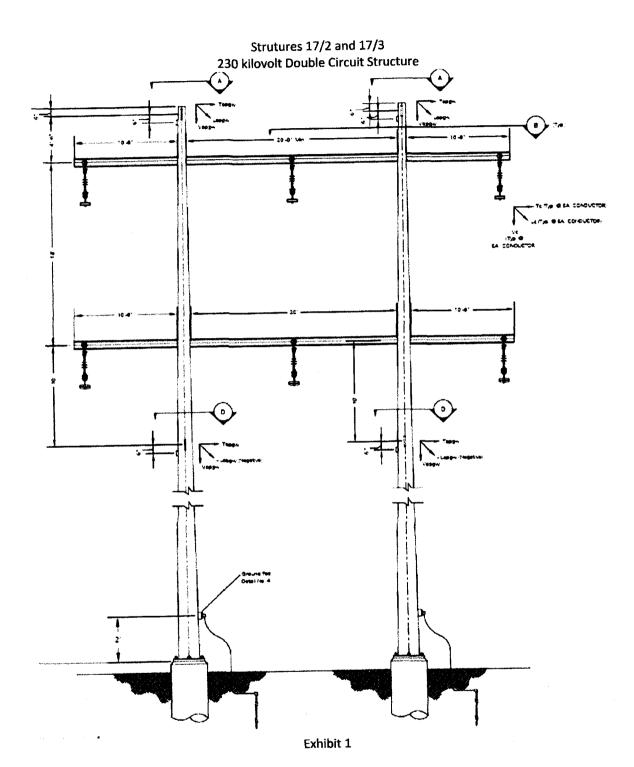
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4	CHAIRMAN	COMMISSIONER
5		EXCUSED
6	Happinett. James	COMM. NEWMAN Purale Pours
7	TCOMMISSIONER )	COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER
8		IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, ERNEST G. JOHNSON,
9		Executive Director of the Arizona Corporation
10		Commission, have hereunto, set my hand and caused the official seal of this Commission to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 1750 day of
11		Novemben, 2011.
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13	7	ERNEST G. JOHNSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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1	Original and Thirteen (13)
2	copies of the foregoing filed this 7 <sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011 with:
3	Docket Control
2 3 4 5 6	Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007
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	Copies of the foregoing mailed this 7 <sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011 to:
7	<u>1vovemoei</u> , 2011 to.
8	John Foreman, Chairman Arizona Power Plant and
9	Transmission Line Sitting Committee Office of the Attorney General
10	1275 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007
11	
12	Thomas H. Campbell Albert H. Acken
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Decision No. \_

### **EXHIBIT A**



Decision No. <u>72680</u>

## Strutures 17/4 and 17/5 230 kilovolt Double Circuit Structure

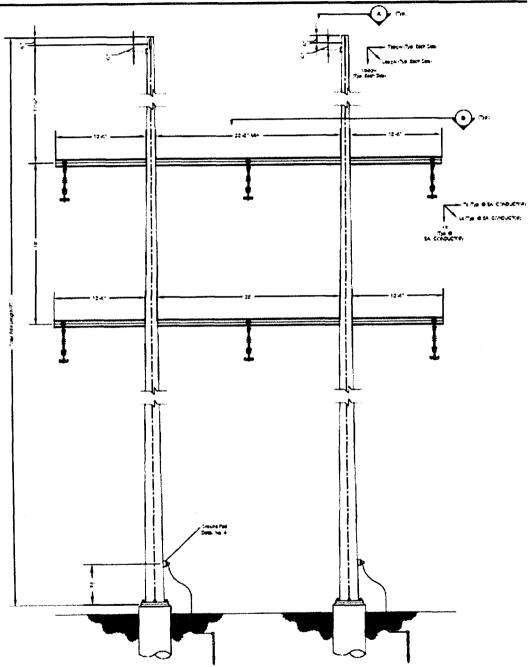


Exhibit 2